

McN-Bell 11/5 11:59

From intercept, looks as if we have lost a plane,
a low-level one shot down by Russian-speaking people, &
it appears we have a fighter attack on two of our other
aircraft. Our own aircraft have not yet reported in. ^{11:59}
... I should be held very close.

11/3/62 10 am Bundy-Bell

Stevenson not shown JFK reply to K, put: Office too busy

Bundy: Reason for big edgy is that the very existence of secret
correspondence with K has been a mystery in the past;
the moment anyone says there is a message, we have
to show it to Alphonse; then we are in trouble — the
message of the 26th shows.

[10/27/62: 10:50 See had arranged to send off 9 or 26 letters to
London, Paris + Frankfurt, with instructions to give to Mac + de Ga.

[Also: telling Alphonse is like publishing in NYT.]

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a low-level one shot down by Russian-sounding people,
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11/8/62 10 am Bundy-Bell

Sturman out about JFK reply to K, get: Office too busy
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[Other: telling Alphonse is like publishing in NYT]

U.S. THREAT CITED IN '62 CUBA CRISIS

R.F. Kennedy Lays Soviet Retreat to Warning

Special to the New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 25 - Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy said today that a United States warning of "overwhelming retaliatory action" caused the Soviet Union to "back down in the crisis last fall over Soviet missiles in Cuba.

The Attorney General said "notification" that such action would be forthcoming was sent to Premier Khrushchev Saturday, Oct. 27. It was the next morning that Mr. Khrushchev agreed to withdraw the missiles.

Mr. Kennedy's remarks were made in a speech at Columbia, S.C. this evening.

The shooting down of a U-2 plane over Cuba on the morning of Oct. 27 was a crucial factor, Mr. Kennedy said. The plane was piloted by Maj. Rudolf Anderson Jr. of Greenville, S.C.

The Attorney General said it was Major Anderson's death that "led the President to notify Mr. Khrushchev that strong and overwhelming retaliatory action would be taken unless he received immediate notice that the missiles would be withdrawn."

Ultimatum Is Hinted

The Attorney General's remarks indicated to some observers that a message calling for an immediate response--in effect an ultimatum--had been sent to Mr. Khrushchev on Oct. 27. No such message has previously been disclosed.

President Kennedy did send a letter that evening, but it was not couched in the strong terms his brother suggested today.